FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR U.S., MAKES STATEMENT

FY231305Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 23 Sep 78 FY

[Excerpt] Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Antonio Montes stated yesterday that during the UN General Assembly Argentina will maintain its position that overall and not partial measures must be implemented against international terrorism. In a statement made yesterday at Ezeiza international airport shortly before leaving for the United States to participate in the 33d UN General Assembly, the foreign minister confirmed that he will meet with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance "at the latter's request." Montes indicated that the meeting which took place in Rome between President Jorge Rafael Videla and U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale was the steppingstone to improvement in bilateral relations, and he expressed his desire to see these currently normal relations rise to the optimum level at which they should always be.

With regard to the measures which Argentina will propose against international terrorism, Montes said: "Our country has been proposing overall measures for the past 2 years, but so far only partial measures, basically aimed against hijacking, have been implemented." Montes also spoke on the situation in Nicaragua and indicated that he will meet with Argentine Ambassador to the OAS Carlos Carasales, who will report on the consultative meetings of OAS foreign ministers called as a result of the approval of Venezuela's proposal.

POLITICAL LEADERS ASK FREEING OF DETAINEES

FY231358Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2250 GMT 22 Sep 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Sep (NA)--A large group of political leaders, representing various currents of opinion, published a letter here today asking President Jorge Videla to "use every means available to order the release of citizens detained without cause and without trial." The letter was not signed by former President Arturo Frondizi or by former presidential candidate Ricardo Balbin. Sources close to Frondizi said he thought that "it would be preferable to send a letter to the armed forces government and the Argentine people containing more profound arguments, instead of taking up the problem of the detainees in an isolated way." Regarding Balbin, it was learned in circles linked with his outlawed group that he thought "the publication of the memorandum was untimely."

The letter to the president reads as follows:

"To his excellency Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla, president of the Republic of Argentina, at his office.

"Your Excellency:

"We, the undersigned, citizens representing various shades of opinion in the present situation in Argentina, turn to your excellency with the intention of contributing to national pacification, requesting that the Executive Branch of the nation use every means available to order the release of citizens detained without cause and without trial.

"Yours truly,

"[signed] Deolindo Felipe Bittel, Prospero Eloy Camus, Miguel Unamuno, Angel Federico Robledo, Roberto Ares, Manuel de Anchorena, Raul Alfonsin, Aldo Tesio, Jose Antonio Allende, Enrique de Vedia, Augusto Comte, Nestor Vicente, Otello Zamponi, Oscar Alende, Juan Manes, Raul Manes, Raul Caballero, Mariano Lorences, Vicente Solano Lima, Rubens Icaro, Fernando Nadra, Simon Alberto Lazara, Victor Garcia Costa, Armando Molina Zavalia."

PEREDA SUPPORTS NONINTERVENTION IN NICARAGUA

PY221443Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Sep 78 PY

[Text] President Juan Pereda Asbun has stated, referring to the present situation in Nicaragua, that the Bolivian Government does not interfere in the domestic affairs of other countries. [illegible] earlier statements by Foreign Ministry officials. General Pereda explained that the Bolivian position will be explained in the OAS consultative meeting focusing on political events in that Central American nation. In a short talk with newsmen, President Juan Pereda dealt with various topics of national interest after a breakfast for secondary school students on Student Day. Referring to the resolutions released at the so-called Meeting for the Sea, held in Cochabamba--resolutions hostile to negotiations on the maritime problem--the president said that the nation's vital problems should be considered realistically and with the greatest possible care. Political interests should not be given preference, since they make the situation worse and belong to the past. The future should be looked at in a positive way in search of solutions which can bring us closer to sovereign access to the Pacific Ocean. Regarding political problems and the proposals made by the parties, he confirmed that dialog has been opened and that the hope is to find the most viable road toward a new unity of Bolivians and, above all, toward a transition to true democracy.

Reports Border Protection Plan

PY221445Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Sep 78 PY

[Text] The armed forces have a plan for the infrastructure intended to safeguard territorial integrity, particularly at the borders, the president has stated in Cochabamba. General Pereda was referring to reports of a Chilean penetration of Bolivian territory and what the armed forces should do now. He stated that an appropriate protest has been made through the proper channels [illegible]. He asserted that the armed forces are playing the role assigned to them.

In another part of his statement he said that the reduction in our exportable products, particularly minerals, is a problem which has been felt for a long time and that his government is seeking viable solutions to bring it back to normal. He also referred to the economic situation, maintaining that it is stable and that the exchange rate will be kept as it is. He added that all measures have been taken with the aim of safeguarding economic stability. The president stressed, however, that proposals for salary increases might harm Bolivia's financial stability. These remarks were made after a ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the Noncommissioned Officers Military School, celebrated on Thursday morning in Cochabamba. The president also visited Quillacollo and Cliza.

BRIEFS

RELEASE OF POLITICAL LEADER--Antonio Peredo, leader of the Bolivian Workers Revolutionary Party [PRTB], formerly called the National Liberation Army [ELN], has been released from detention by order of a judge who could not find him guilty of any crime. Antonio Peredo was detained in connection with the arrest of his brother, Osvaldo "Chato" Peredo, who had assaulted a biscuit sales office in La Paz. The PRTB is among the parties forming the ultraleftist Revolutionary Front of the Left [FRI]. [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Sep 78 PY]

RADIO STATION RESUMES BROADCASTS--Siglo XX, Bolivia, 19 Sep (PRESENCIA)--The miner-owned radio station "La Voz del Minero," which had been intervened during the June 1978 general strike, is transmitting on an experimental basis after repairs and will resume normal operations in approximately 15 days. COMIBOL will reimburse the radio amounting to 450 000 Bolivian pesos. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 20 Sep 78 p 4 PY]

AZEREDO NOT AFRAID OF U.S. ECONOMIC REPRISALS

PY221529Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Sep 78 p 44 PY

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro--Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira stated yesterday that he does not fear retaliation from U.S. economic groups because of his recent remarks concerning the pressures exerted by those groups on Brazil. During a meeting with newsmen in Rio de Janeiro after lecturing at the School for Higher Military Studies, Azeredo da Silveira stated: "If I were afraid, I would not have been foreign minister for 4 and 1/2 years." He was very irritated by the newsmens' inquiries about the term "pressure." Here is the interview.

[Question] With respect to U.S. pressure on Brazil...

[Answer] During the meeting with the directors of the Banco do Brasil I told journalists that I did not believe Brazil's indebtedness to the United States could become a means of pressure against us. Now I will tell you why. We do not have debts from government to government, but rather with U.S. banks and institutions.

Moreover, the U.S. business community is so integrated into Brazil that it will not take stands against itself. Now, a country like the United States is always capable of exerting pressure. That is what I said.

[Question] And how would our capacity to defend ourselves against those pressures work?

[Answer] I believe we have great capacity to do this because we have resisted everything. I did not say that the U.S. necessarily exerts pressure with malice. However, to think that an economic giant like the United States--a country which consumes a third of the world's energy--is not capable of exerting pressure is really ridiculous. But the way the newspapers interpret this, it would seem that I am baselessly referring to the United States.

[Question] Could the reports that Brazil will decrease subsidies for exports and the problems related to the nuclear agreement between Brazil and the FRG be included among the U.S. pressures to which you referred the day before yesterday?

[Answer] That is not so. There has been a lot of talk about this subsidies story. There was a time when the subsidy was a weapon of the wealthy because the poor could have only quantity restrictions, which don't cost anything. I believe that Brazil will negotiate this with a lot of caution and calm, and will only reach an agreement if the "package" is reasonable and useful to the country. However, we will not refrain from negotiating, because Brazil today has foreign trade on the order of $25 million. Therefore, we are no longer a negligible entity. If we do not negotiate, we will be penalized uselessly. Brazil's intention is not to destroy its own industry. We are trying to draw up a code in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [GATT] in which the United States would accept international opinion. Actually, what they are telling us is that they would submit to this opinion if we make some compromises. We have to analyze this.

[Question] Will some agreement in the nuclear field be signed during the French president's visit to Brazil?

[Answer] I don't think so. Everything we have in the way of technology, and I do not exclude even French technology, still has to mature a bit. Brazil will fulfill the agreement with the FRG.

[Question] Do you fear retaliation by U.S. economic groups after this independent stand which you have taken?

[Answer] Look here: If I were afraid I would not have been foreign minister for 4 and 10 years, I would have stopped defending Brazilian interests a long time ago. I have thousands of other defects, but not that one. I am proud to be Brazilian, and I believe that the first requirement for Brazilian foreign policy should be national honesty without which we are not even mere observers.

[Question] The export of Brazilian arms to Chile, which you yourself said would go by ship if they did not go by truck...

[Answer] No, they are not arms. There was no truck on the highways carrying arms. I can assure you, and the Foreign Ministry supports this policy, that no arms are being shipped. You can relax.

MINISTER ATTENDS AIR EXERCISE, REVEALS NEW BOMB

PY2314185Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 22 Sep 78 p 14 PY

[Text] Porto Alegre-- A bomb of great destructive power similar to the U.S. MK-82/LD is being developed by the Aeronautics Technical Center [CTA] to be used by the fighter-bombers of the Brazilian Air Force (FAB), Aeronautics Minister Araripe Macedo said yesterday during the Brazilian fighter plane exercises in Canoas. The exercises are part of the 40th meeting of fighter aircraft in which Mirage, F-5, and Xavante planes from the country's four air force bases are participating. The meeting has also given rise to a contest among pilots which is being won by the Anapolis Airbase team. Demonstrations with napalm and rockets have also taken place.

The bomb which is being developed by the CTA has great destructive power and will weigh between 250 and 2,000 pounds. It is designed to destroy important targets, such as bridges, factories and concentrations of troops and vehicles. Minister Araripe Macedo also stated that the termination of the military accord with the United States has no effect on the trade and friendship between the two countries, "which will continue to develop normally." During yesterday's exercises--which the minister of aeronautics attended with 3d Army Commander Gen Samuel Augusto Alves Correa and other air force and army commanders--Xavantes successfully destroyed several targets with 16 napalm bombs. Later four F-5's from Santa Cruz (Rio de Janeiro) Airbase fired 56 rockets at targets on a hill near the shelter where the attending officers were located. Four Mirages from Anapolis Airbase carried out flight demonstrations at 1,100 kph and four other F-5's demonstrated surface strafing with 20-mm high explosive ammunition. These exercises are a test for the utilization of F-5's in joint operations with the 3d Army.

Arms, Ammunition Exported

PY2314385Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Sep 78 p 7 PY

[Excerpt] "The arms and ammunition being produced in Brazil have already become a source of foreign currency because they are being exported to other nations," said Aeronautics Minister Lt Gen Joelmir Campos de Araripe Macedo when attending the demonstrations which are part of the 40th annual fighter aircraft meeting in Sao Jeronimo, 69 km from Porto Alegre. Speaking about the purchase of new airplanes for the Brazilian Air Force (FAB), the minister announced that "for the time being this is not being considered." He added that "the FAB is being equipped with airplanes produced in the country, such as the Xavante and the Bandeirante."

E1

Contreras Still Retired

PY1301990Y Santiago Chile Cadena Agropecuaria in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Sep 78 PY

[Text] According to army sources, Gen Manuel Contreras, former chief of the dissolved National Intelligence Directorate, DINA, continues to be in retired status. This source added that there has been no change in the military status of this general who retired on 21 March 1978 and who was given an extension of 6 months after his retirement date in accordance with a government decree currently in force.

U.S. Attorney Opposes Secrecy

PY2402552Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2122 GMT 22 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 22 Sep (AFP)--Lawyer Alfredo Etcheberry said today that the U.S. Government wants the extradition process in the letelier case to be public. The lawyer, who represents the U.S. Government, responded in this way to the position assumed by Israel Borquez, president of the Supreme Court, who had declared the process strictly secret.

Etcheberry indicated that he had talked with Judge Borquez asking him to reconsider his position. The lawyer added that in case his petition is rejected, he will appeal to a panel of Supreme Court justices to have the extradition process of the three officers be made public.

U.S. Claims Queried

PY2216592Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Sep 78 PY

[Commentary by Rafael Pisainer]

[Excerpts] The week, ladies and gentlemen, ends with expectations concerning the so-called Townley case. Now the United States has submitted what it believes is evidence of the alleged participation of three Chilean officers in the case under investigation. It should be noted that the treaty between Chile and the United States on extradition of criminals, and the complementary protocol, which were signed in Santiago on 17 April 1900, states in Article 5: Neither party will be forced to deliver its own citizens under the terms of this treaty. It seems that this spirit has predominated during this treaty, because in 78 years Chile has never extradited a Chilean Chilean for trial in the United States, and viceversa. Furthermore, another very important detail must be considered: The Chilean Supreme Court, beginning with its president, Israel Borquez, who will carry out the first investigation, is undertaking this case with the seriousness, gravity, consideration and proper attitude which are internationally recognized and attributed to the Chilean judicial system. But we must not forget that Chile has a legal system different from that of the United States. In the United States the law derives from the old Anglo-Saxon statutes.

The law in Chile, however, is based on Roman law, and has clear differences with U.S. legal procedure. It may well be that what the United States considers evidence, in Chile is nothing more than presumption; that what they believe are sworn statements and complete admissions of guilt, in Chile are considered evidential accessory arguments which do not influence the final decision. Not only is there a difference in the nature of the two systems, but the qualification of evidence, the judgment of testimony and other factors also follow a different system. And because of this the Chilean Supreme Court--this is merely supposition--may well overrule the U.S. Government request.

Three things may happen regarding the so-called Townley case:

1. The Chilean court will decide to extradite the three officers allegedly involved;

2. The Chilean court will refuse to extradite them because the dossier and the film submitted by the United States do not constitute sufficient evidence in accordance with Chilean law--and I must remind you that this case is being judged by Chilean law; and

3. The other possibility is that the officers will not be extradited but that the Chilean Supreme Court may decide they had committed some kind of misdemeanor or crime which deserves trial here in Chile. These are the three choices which will be debated next week.

There is one very important detail in this case: What is the basis for the U.S. charges? They are based, ladies and gentlemen, on what Townley told the U.S. courts. It must be clearly understood that Townley is the only U.S. citizen involved in the case, according to his own confession. He admits that he placed the bomb, but the United States is not going to try him for murder. It is going to try him for being an accomplice in a murder, which is a minor sentence. He may be given 10 years in jail. But the U.S. court has agreed with Townley in writing that he will be freed in 40 months. It is very curious that on a charge (?presented by) the United States, the only person better off in the case is also the only U.S. citizen involved. There is something in all of this which we Chileans do not understand, and it is this "deal" between Townley and U.S. courts. This is very strange. The U.S. court is not interested in punishing Townley, who was the one who planted the bomb--which is quite serious.

What the U.S. court is interested in--and because of this many believe there is a political implication to the case--is punishing three Chilean officers who, according to Townley, were involved in the murder of Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffit. These are the basic facts (?of this case). More will appear as the case develops, but I repeat that it is very curious that the Cubans charged in the United States declared themselves innocent, that Townley received such special treatment from the U.S. court, and that--and this is the most important issuee--the only U.S. citizen involved is also the one who is best off.

BISHOP SEEKS INFORMATION ON 16 MISSING PERSONS

PY251125Y Santiago Chile Radio Minería Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 23 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile--Msgr (Francisco Valdez), bishop of Osorno, sent a letter to Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez on 22 September, asking him to provide an answer as to the whereabouts of 16 of his parishoners who are either missing or have been arrested. In his letter, Bishop (Valdez) indicated that the relatives of the missing persons, whose names and backgrounds were attached, have carried out countless attempts to find out their whereabouts. All these efforts have proven fruitless and their demands have had no satisfactory answer from the government. The letter concludes: I hope that your ministry will make all efforts necessary to provide the relatives with the answer to which they have a right.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS ASYLUM TO FIVE SANDINISTS

PA2304447Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0136 GMT 23 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 22 Sep (EFE)--Colombia today granted political asylum to five Sandinist guerrillas who took refuge in the Colombian Embassy in Nicaragua this week. This was confirmed by Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas, who said Colombia respects the right of asylum and believes it to be a humanitarian practice. For this reason the Sandinists were granted their request.

A foreign ministry spokesman told the newspaper EL VESPERTINO that the Nicaraguan refugees include Commander Cinco, a member of the group which several days ago attacked the National Palace in Managua.

The paper reports that a Colombian Air Force plane left for Costa Rica yesterday and is waiting in San Jose for the Somoza government to grant safe conduct passes to the refugees. The plane will then take them to the country of their choice.

Refugees Describe Casualties

PA221517Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Colombian Foreign Ministry revealed a few hours ago that five Sandinist guerrillas in asylum at the Colombian Embassy in Managua will arrive here soon. The insurgents reported that casualties [bajas] in the battles of Esteli, Masaya, Chinandega and Managua total approximately 6,000 and that the wounded [heridos] exceed 2,000.

Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas received a detailed report in the last few hours on the status of the guerrillas, most of whom are seriously ill.

UTC DISAGREES WITH LABOR COUNCIL ON SECURITY STATUTE

PA221255Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0125 GMT 22 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] Bogota, 21 Sep (LATIN)--The Union of Workers of Colombia (UTC), the country's most important labor union, today asked the government to revoke three provisions of the "security statute" issued early this month on the grounds that these undermine labor and democratic freedoms. The document was signed by 15 of the 31 members of the UTC National Executive Committee. In it they outline their position regarding the National Labor Council (CNS), of which they are members along with three other labor unions.

The CNS recently issued a statement criticizing the statute and accusing the government of favoring the retrogressive positions of businessmen with regard to labor advances.

UTC executives rejected the CNS statement, stating that they were not consulted about its terms, with which they disagree. In statements today they maintain that "in view of the serious situation that the country is confronting as a result of the insecurity which is a threat to individuals and to the state itself, and in view of the assassinations of honest Colombians in various parts of the national territory, we support the security measures issued by the national government on 6 September with the exception of paragraphs A, B and D of Article 7, which are contrary to labor freedom and rights." These rights would be violated in cases in which "workers organizations were to be obliged to defend themselves from abuses by management which the authorities are incapable of preventing." Also, the three provisions are "unwise and dangerous to Colombian democracy."

MORALES SAYS NATION'S ARMS ARE FOR DEFENSE ONLY

PY2314562 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Sep 78 PY

[Text] President Morales Bermudez has said that Peru is adequately and properly armed for its national defense and that these arms are not for attack but to defend this sacred territory. The chief of state made these remarks in speaking about the basic aspects of the economic crisis, and he announced that the country is beginning to come out of it. The President said the decision to be armed is aimed at preventing a repetition of history.

President Morales Bermudez made these remarks during a meeting with delegates of the National Council of Maritime and River Workers in the Tupac Amaru Hall of the Government Palace. The president said Peru is working very hard to reorganize its foreign debts in order to meet the crisis. He announced that a meeting will be held in Paris with creditors in the first week in November.

The effort to reduce the level of unemployment in the country is part of the policy to reorganize our foreign debt. He said, and all workers, businessmen, the government and all the people should help in this great effort now and in the future under any other government.

He added that sectorism which divides the country should be overcome in order to build Peru. He believes basic reforms will surely be included in the new constitution as a continuous action [words indistinct] a process of change of the kind we have begun, a process which cannot be stopped. Morales Bermudez said this is the reason for the program to transfer power to the people, because "we [armed forces] are going to continue to (?cooperate) with any new government after 1980."

Goal of Full Democracy

PA2216332 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 16 Sep 78 p 1 PA

[Excerpt] Lima, 15 Sep (ZSI-PERU)--The president, Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez, has reaffirmed that an underdeveloped country such as ours will find its destiny when it attains true and complete democracy. This democracy must be economically and politically pluralist. It must be devoid of egotism stemming from power or authority.

He stated that the Peruvian Investigative Police [PIP], whose anniversary we celebrate today, are also helping us attain this goal, in which all Peruvians will have the right to express themselves as such and to build and forge a Peruvian fatherland.

President Morales Bermudez made these statements at the PIP training center during the ceremony to celebrate the PIP's 56th anniversary.

President Morales Bermudez also urged PIP members to continue fighting against illegal drug trafficking and strenuously attack--"as you know how to"--those dealing in contraband. He warned that they are organized and are using modern techniques. This is something that is happening in Peru for the first time and is viewed as treason, he stated.

General Morales Bermudez affirmed: "We are convinced that our political program, despite all the problems we may have, must lead us to the goal of full democracy in our Peru."

"We believe and will continue to believe--unless somebody proves differently--that a fatherland such as ours, an underdeveloped country such as ours, will never become a dictatorship," he added.

PEREZ CHIDES CARTER FOR INACTION OVER NICARAGUA

PA230129Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2226 GMT 22 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 22 Sep (EFE)--Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has asked U.S. President Jimmy Carter for more action against Somoza, according to a banner headline in the newspaper EL MUNDO today. The paper said its correspondent in Washington, Justo Lacomba, obtained a copy of a letter sent by the Venezuelan president to the U.S. President. In the letter, Carlos Andres Perez chided Carter for the scant attention he was paying to the bloody Nicaraguan war and explained that this position was not in line with his human rights policy.

The paper said Perez emphasized that from the conversation he had with Ambassador Jorden, Carter's special envoy, "I obtained nothing that allows me to be optimistic regarding the U.S. attitude toward General Somoza's bloody regime." After stating that "in the last 15 days you concentrated all your time and all your attention on the Camp David meeting, which I supported enthusiastically," the paper said Perez stressed that "in the meantime, death, massacre and genocide were destroying the Nicaraguan people."

"The Somoza dictatorship unleashed a war to the death against the Nicaraguan people, which makes me feel sorrow and shame for these events which, in certain way, indicate a complicity that involves us all," said Perez, according to the paper. Finally, EL MUNDO said, still referring to the letter, that the Venezuelan president warned Carter that "the Nicaraguan situation jeopardizes your human rights policy which fostered so much hope in Latin America and to which Venezuela gave its sincere support."

MINISTER SAYS 3 PLANES STILL REMAIN IN COSTA RICA

PA221321Y Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1210 GMT 22 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 21 Sep (VENPRESS)--Venezuelan Defense Minister Maj Gen Fernando Paredes Bello said today Venezuela is not planning to send any more military aircraft to Costa Rica. He said the only Venezuelan planes remaining in Costa Rica are two OV-10's and the hospital plane which carried medical personnel and equipment to help refugees arriving from Nicaragua.

Minister Paredes Bello said President Carlos Andres Perez will decide how long the medical personnel will remain in Costa Rica. Asked about press reports of Venezuelan tanks in Costa Rica, he said this is absolutely false and that "Venezuelan tanks are in Venezuelan territory."

No Ships Sent

PA231736Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1704 GMT 23 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] San Jose, 23 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Venezuelan Ambassador to San Jose Rolando Groscoors denied today that Venezuelan warships have arrived in Costa Rica. The diplomat met yesterday afternoon with Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria and told him that it is not true that ships are being prepared to be sent to Costa Rica.

The Caracas newspapers reported Friday that a destroyer, a patrol boat and a carrier are docked at Puerto Cabello, ready to leave on a good will mission to Costa Rica.

50 SANDINISTS LEAVE FOR 'UNKNOWN DESTINATION'

PA230328Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0304 GMT 23 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Panama City, 22 Sep--Approximately 50 Sandinists who had been under the protection of the Panamanian National Guard at the Tinajita Barracks left this country yesterday for an unknown destination. Presumably they will try to return to Nicaragua.

The Sandinists had been deported from Costa Rica after they had entered Costa Rican territory from Nicaragua while fleeing Nicaraguan Government troops. There were several guerrilla commanders among them but only Spanish priest Gaspar Garcia Laviana and Plutarco Hernandez, a Costa Rican guerrilla, identified themselves as such.

VICE PRESIDENT AFFIRMS TORRIJOS' ROLE, STATUS

PA221547Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 21 Sep 78 PA

[Statement by Vice President Gerardo Gonzalez during 21 September meeting with Corregimiento representatives from Panama Province--recording]

[Excerpts] There is nothing in the constitution to prevent the commander of the National Guard from continuing his revolutionary patrol of the nation. Let this be clear. One of the things that has been worrying the assembly of Corregimiento representatives and the people is that Torrijos would [words indistinct]. As commander of the National Guard, nothing can stop him constitutionally from exercising the function of patrolling the country and seeing to it that internal order is maintained. In fact, that is what he has been doing all these years when he has been in every corner of the country talking over problems with the people.

The Torrijos-Carter treaty establishes that while Panama's participation in the defense of the canal increases, that of the United States decreases. The Panamanian forces in charge of going to the zone--that is, the forces that will actually go to the zone to carry out military duties--have to be under a Panamanian commander who has international prestige, not only militarily, but also politically, so that he is respected by his colleagues from other nations. Torrijos not only has been in close contact with his people but also with Latin America and the rest of the world. Besides, his prestige with the current U.S. Government and the people of that nation is solid.

That is why Panama, in the most sensitive part of the new relationship spelled out in the treaty, as far as military matters are concerned, needs to raise the prestige of the man who led this people to perfect their independence. Thus, he will keep his prestige intact as armed forces commander. There is nothing strange about a decision which tends, more than anything else, toward giving this country stable civilian and political institutions so it can become decolonized peacefully, or in his own patriotic offer to fulfill the most delicate part of the treaty he signed on 7 September 1977.

BRIEFS

OIL, GOLD PROSPECTING--The U.S. Exxon company has signed a 1-million balboa contract with the government for an oil exploration project which will be undertaken today east of Bayano. Daniel Esquivel, mining resources general director at the Commerce and Industries Ministry, said gold prospecting will also be undertaken in various parts of the Republic. The project will be carried out through funds to be supplied by the Planning and Economic Policy Ministry. The 3-year project will cost 810,000 balboas. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 18 Sep 78 PA]

COSTA RICA

CARAZO, TORRIJOS MEET; CIVIL GUARDS RECALLED

PA240126Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0028 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[By Eduardo Castro of ACAN-EFE]

[Text] San Jose, 23 Sep, (ACAN-EFE)--"We are trying to maintain peaceful coexistence in the region and prevent intervention in our nations by other countries," Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos said today at the end of a meeting with Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio. Carazo and Torrijos met this afternoon at the Tobias Bolands airport on the outskirts of San Jose. This was an impromptu meeting and newsmen arrived late. The Panamanian leader arrived in his small jet plane and immediately met with Carazo, who came in from the interior of the country, where he was on a weekend tour.

The meeting lasted from 1315 to 1723 (1930 to 2323 GMT) [all times as received], and the Costa Rican public security minister and vice minister, Juan Jose Echeverria and Enrique Montealegre, respectively, also attended the meeting.

Carazo told newsmen that during the meeting they studied the reports submitted by the ambassadors of the two countries regarding the meeting of the OAS consultative organ which began yesterday and continued in Washington this afternoon. The president stressed that the Central American rulers are in constant communication with each other and are closely following the hemispheric meeting underway in the U.S. capital. He denied that an isthmian summit meeting was imminent but did not completely rule out the possibility of one. Carazo said that in his talks with Torrijos they discussed the two governments' desire to insure that there would be no more violations of their territories. [as received] In this manner the Costa Rican head of state referred to the incursion by Nicaraguan military planes on 12 September and their strafing of civilians.

Carazo considered his meeting with the Panamanian chief of government this afternoon as one more in a series of contacts related to the situation in Nicaragua. Meanwhile, as the meeting of the two rulers was underway, radio stations in this capital broadcast a message for the guardsmen from one of the San Jose units to report to their barracks immediately. It was momentarily impossible to determine the cause for the "urgent call" ordering the Civil Guards to report to their post. However, a spokesman from the general headquarters of the public force told ACAN-EFE that the call for off-duty guards to report was not prompted by any emergency and that the situation on the border with Nicaragua was completely normal.

CARAZO MEETING WITH VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT CANCELED

PA230827Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0800 GMT 23 Sep 78 PA

[Text] A meeting that had been planned between President Rodrigo Carazo Odio and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez will not take place. Carazo said that the Venezuelan president has postponed his trip to the United Nations and so the announced meetings will not be held. On the other hand, President Carazo said that he will go to New York just to address the UN General Assembly. I will not do any other work because these trips are always somewhat complicated for a president, he said.

Asked about the tone of his speech, he said he will not give any advance information on it. We will hear it on Wednesday. Carazo will leave on Monday aboard a regular commercial flight with his wife Dona Estrella de Carazo, Presidency Minister Jose Rafael Cordero Croceri and adviser Julio Rodriguez.

NIEHAUS COMMENTS ON U.S. POSITION ON NICARAGUA

PA222017Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1930 GMT 22 Sep 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 22 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The U.S. Government's position is to respect the sovereignty of peoples, acting Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernard Niehaus said today while commenting on the attitude assumed by that country vis-a-vis the political-military conflict in Nicaragua.

Regarding the visit by a special envoy of President Carter who met with President Rodrigo Carazo, Niehaus said that Ambassador William Jordan came here to offer his country's services if it can help in any way to preserve peace and calm in that country. This is a helpful attitude by a great and powerful continental country which is deeply concerned over any conflict on the continent, he added.

Niehaus, who granted an interview to ACAN-EFE in his office this morning, declined comment on the terms of a proposal that Jordan brought and submitted to President Carazo. This was confirmed by the latter to this agency on Wednesday. Niehaus is sitting in for Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Calderon, who is now in Washington. He said that Jordan's mission in Costa Rica was not so much to bring a proposal but rather to exchange views on the situation.

Asked what he thinks about relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua at present, he said that they continue to be tense. On 12 September Nicaraguan Air Force planes entered Costa Rica and machinegunned some civilians, an act which strained ties between the two countries. However, he recognized the good will of Nicaraguan Ambassador to Costa Rica Juan Bautista Lacayo, who wants to maintain the dialog, not close the doors and discuss solutions, seeking to avoid a conflict which could take on worse dimensions.

The acting foreign minister spoke out against a break of relations with Nicaragua. I have said that although the situation is bad I do not under any circumstances want to stop the dialog. I believe that a break would be negative: We are two brother countries, and although we have a problem pending, it is a problem which should be solved through diplomatic channels, Niehaus said.

The chief of Costa Rican international policy said that the government has tried to handle the problem with the neighboring country carefully. Speaking about the way in which Costa Rica, mindful of the principle of nonintervention in other states' affairs and its work so that the OAS consultative body would discuss the consequences of the Nicaraguan civil war, Niehaus said that a domestic Nicaraguan problem has been internationalized. [sentence as received] The official did not mention the reasons why Costa Rica, which advocates a policy of respect for an enforcement of human rights, has not stated its position on the alleged massacres of civilians by the Nicaraguan National Guard, as reported by the local press. He noted, however, that what has been accomplished in Costa Rica as far as human rights is concerned should be made known to the concert of nations.

General Somoza's government has repeatedly reported that Costa Rica has facilitated the activities of Sandinist National Liberation Front guerrillas by permitting them to enter after fighting the Nicaraguan army. On that point, Niehaus reiterated that, in line with the right of asylum, Costa Rica cannot refuse admission to people who are fleeing a neighboring country for political reasons. In addition to the legal principle of asylum, there is also the principle of nonintervention. The Costa Rican Government does all it can to prevent groups of dissidents or opponents of the incumbent Nicaraguan Government from leaving for that country from here, he explained. He admitted that the possibilities of border surveillance are limited.

About demonstrations against the Nicaraguan Government by groups opposed to General Somoza who have issued appeals from San Jose, Costa Rica, he admitted that there is freedom of speech and it is very difficult to curb them. He said that some of those people's expressions could harm relations with a fraternal nation. The only thing that can be done is to appeal to them to understand that Costa Rica does not want to complicate or worsen international relations over expressions which are not official.

GOVERNMENT HELPING SOLVE NICARAGUA'S WATER SHORTAGE

PA231505Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Sep 78 PA

[Text] At the request of the Costa Rican Red Cross and through the Spanish consul in Costa Rica, the Costa Rican institute of aqueducts and sewers sent a (tank of Tercloton) HPH to Managua to purify water. Huge amounts of water can be purified with this chemical product. Nicaragua is experiencing a severe water shortage because several cities, particularly those involved in the fighting, have no potable water.

HONDURAS

HIGH-LEVEL TALKS HELD WITH GUATEMALA, COSTA RICA

PA222226Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2132 GMT 22 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 22 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan Vice President Francisco Villagran Kramer and Costa Rican Vice President Jose Miguel Alfaro are in Tegucigalpa this afternoon consulting with the Honduran military government junta. The officials arrived this afternoon and immediately went to the presidential palace, where they talked privately with Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, president of the military junta, and Lieutenant Colonels Domingo Alvarez Cruz and Amilcar Zelaya.

The Guatemalan vice president was accompanied by Edgardo Villanueva, an officer of the army general staff, while the Costa Rican vice president was accompanied by Industries and Commerce Minister Fernado Altmann Ortiz and Director of Industries Luis A. Echeverria. The subject of their talks has not been determined but it is believed to be a high-level discussion of enormous importance for the livelihood of Central America.

It is assumed that the officials from Guatemala, Costa Rica and Honduras are analyzing the Central American situation resulting from the obstruction of Central American trade by the Nicaraguan crisis. Yesterday, Thursday, high-ranking Panamanian officials paid a similar visit to Honduras, although the subject under discussion is unknown.

NICARAGUA

PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNIQUE REPORTS COUNTRY 'AT PEACE'

PA240419Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0332 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[Communique issued on 23 Sep by the Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic--read by announcer]

[Text] The Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic takes pleasure in informing the people that on Thursday, 21 September, the National Guard completed mop-up operations in Esteli, expelling the Sandino-communist snipers which harassed the civilian working population. As of today all the cities in the country are completely at peace and under the control of police authorities and the National Guard, which is in charge of maintaining law and order and all guarantees for citizens dedicated to their activities, whether they are personal, family or business.

This secretariat informs the people that all normal public and commercial activities are being fully restored in the country with the approval of the labor and business sectors who are now free of the uncertainty and terror imposed by the Sandino-communists. In spite of rumors to the contrary, there are only 350 prisoners who are directly involved, according to investigations carried out so far. All those not proven guilty will be released.

As soon as the National Guard announced that the rebellion of the Sandino-communists had been crushed, the central government began a food distribution program and hired workers to clean up the city. A program is also being implemented to repair damages caused by the terrorists.

Thanks to the efforts of the constitutional government and the armed institution at the service of the people, Nicaragua will be able to continue progressing in peace.

Managua, National District, 23 September 1978

Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic

FIVE REPORTED KILLED BY MILITARY PATROLS

PA242120Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1959 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Panama City, 24 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The military patrol operations conducted during the last few hours of Saturday night left a toll of at least five civilians dead, according to reports from branch offices of the Nicaraguan Red Cross received here.

In the city of Jinotepe, Carazo Department, in the country's south, Hugo Aviles, an employee of the brigades for eradication of coffee rust; Rene Rojas, a 40-year-old (?worker); and an unidentified 25-year-old woman died between 1800 and 0600, the hours during which a curfew is in effect in the departments. These deaths are in addition to the persons reported killed yesterday, some of whom have been identified as Wilfredo Ayerxdis, Victor Santamaria and Francisco Salas, all of them youngsters who were standing in their homes' doorways.

According to the same reports, in the city of Masaya, east of the Nicaraguan capital, another military patrol killed Rafael Gutierrez Lopez, 34, and Ismael Saenz, 22, in the district of Santa Rosa. In the city of Diriamba, near Jinotepe, military patrols captured several hundred persons in the area of La Boquita Beach resort, on the Pacific Ocean, to which the Sandinist elements which had been harassing the National Guard in that city had fled. The prisoners are investigated one by one and those who are found to have no links with Sandinist National Liberation Front are released.

Meanwhile, the cities of Chinandega, in the west, and Esteli, in the north--the last two cities recovered by the National Guard from the Sandinists, who controlled them from 10 to 16 September--still have no telephone, telegraph or postal communications with the rest of the country. In Esteli, where the most serious incidents took place, the Red Cross managed to evacuate a second group of 22 persons last night. These persons were housed at the emergency operations center of that institution in this capital. The welfare organization has launched a house-to-house drive to render the necessary emergency services.

In the city of Leon, in Nicaragua's western region, the army is in control of the situation.

The activities of citizens are returning to normal.

Manuel Fiallos Orangoyen, rector of the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua, said that university installations suffered substantial damages during the armed clashes between the guerrillas and National Guard patrols. The windows and doors of buildings were damaged and files have been repeatedly searched. An administrative reorganization will begin tomorrow, with a view toward effecting necessary repairs before the opening of the second semester, which will not be possible for at least one month. The official semester was scheduled to end this week but classes have been suspended since the beginning of September because of the violent incidents known throughout the world. The rector added that the situation is not normal yet and the university community cannot be exposed to risk.

To conclude, the explosion of devices increased in Managua. Meanwhile, the people have been expressing disillusionment with the moderate resolution adopted by the Organization of American States in Washington.

ESTELI DEPARTMENT NATIONAL GUARD ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

PA2509156Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0013 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[Communique No 1 issued on 22 Sep by departmental commander of the Nicaraguan National Guard in Esteli Department--read by announcer]

[Text] National Guard of Nicaragua, general headquarters of the 15th Company, 6th Battalion, Esteli, Esteli Department, Nicaragua

Communique No 1

The departmental commander in Esteli Department, in view of the deplorable events which occurred starting on the morning of Sunday, 10 September, in which the peace and tranquility of this community were disrupted by communist extremists who murdered, robbed, burned and attacked private property, including the national guard headquarters of this city, in trying to attain their unhealthy purposes through the implementation of slogans [consignas] in Masaya, Managua, Leon and Chinandege Departments, where they used the same procedures of terror and intimidation, advises the people of Esteli that:

A. The National Guard [members] stationed in this general headquarters not only drove back but successfully counterattacked the enemy and now has complete control of the city of Esteli.

B. The people are advised that they can now return to their usual work, such as clearing the land and [other] daily activities, since the city of Esteli is under the complete control of the Nicaraguan National Guard.

C. The National Guard deplores the bloody events which have brought mourning to Nicaraguan families, especially to the honest and honorable people of Esteli, whose suffering is caused by the army.

D. The National government will, through this command, establish five food distribution centers for the homeless in the following places: 1) Sebastian Pinel Institute; 2) Our Lady of the Rosary School; 3) Cathedral church; 4) (?Cotran); 5) San Francisco Institute. There will also be medical brigades from the Public Health Ministry at the same places to give medical assistance to persons requesting it. There will also be spraying brigades from the Health Ministry, which will spray every house to prevent disease.

E. This departmental command has proceeded immediately, with government aid, to re-establish light, drinking water and communications utilities. Until this is achieved, water will be available at the aforementioned centers.

F. In order to reestablish transit of persons, the National Guard, in combination with brigades from the National District, the highway department and its equipment and a civilian brigade from this city, will proceed to clean up the city. The immediate cooperation of all residents is requested.

G. In order to maintain order, law and the principle of authority in this deparment, the National Guard will conduct intense patrols and occupy some important points in order to guarantee peace for the honest and conscientious working people until normal daily activities of life are reestablished in this department.

H. The people are reminded that as a result of the events described, the national government, in use of the power granted it by the constitution when peace is disrupted, has declared a national state of siege for 30 days. Therefore, no one is allowed on the streets between 1800 and 0600.

Issued in Esteli at 0930 on 22 September 1978.

[signed] [Name indistinct] Martinez, infantry colonel, departmental commander, National Guard

Esteli Without Water, Electricity

PA2417Z5Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1703 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 24 Sep (AFP)--Gen Anastasio Somoza's government has launched harsh repression in Esteli, the last bastion of the Sandinist guerrillas which 3 days ago fell to government troops, it was learned here today. The wave of repression particularly affects the peasant sector. The number of political prisoners will be very high, said refugees arriving in this capital. The situation in Esteli--a city of a little over 20,000 inhabitants located 150 km north of Managua on the stretch of the Pan-American Highway leading to Honduras--is extremely critical, eyewitnesses said. There is no water or electricity, food is scarce, and it is feared that epidemics will break out because of the inhuman conditions the population is currently experiencing. Clashes took place last night between guerrilla groups and National Guard forces in Ocotal, 300 km north of Managua and a mere 40 km from the Honduran border. It is believed that the rebels are Sandinists who fled Esteli and who are trying to take refuge in the Honduran town of Las Manos, located right on the border.

CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADER COMMENTS ON SITUATION

PA2317Z1Y San Jose adio Reloj in Spanish 0629 GMT 23 Sep 78 PA

["Message to the Nicaraguan people" from Fernando Aguero Rocha, president of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party, from Miami, Flordia--recorded; date not given]

[Text] Somoza has won a Pyrrhic victory. Thousands of persons dead and wounded, cities razed by aerial bombing, citizens assassinated in the streets, mass genocide of defenseless civilians are the macabre tool of a [word indistinct] who has been illegally in power for 45 years in my unfortunate fatherland. All of these crimes, added to many others are being consummated in our own continent in the name of democracy and human rights. There is not a single human right that has not been violated in my country. Children, elderly persons, adults and women have been the victims of the brutality of the dictator who, calling himself president, is possessed by the same devil spirit embodied in the human frame of a friend in Africa, who has carried out the most horrendous crimes anyone can imagine. In his desperation, he is trying to mislead international public opinion by claiming that the struggle (that has been unleashed) against him is communist-inspired.

This is a huge lie, because it would mean accepting that 98 percent of the Nicaraguan people who are struggling against him are communists. By their own nature, our people are Christian and we must reach the conclusion that there is no better meeting for international communism than the dictatorships themselves, synonyms of crime, exploitation and stagnation of the social order and the development of peoples.

Each passing day [words indistinct] repentance for the close links between these illegitimate governments and the U.S. administrations. The peasants, workers, businessmen, the church and the political parties demand the disappearnce of the Somoza family. But the Attila of modern times, the schizophrenic who calls himself president, surrounded by the forces and units which still support him, unleashes the madness he has inherited to wipe out an entire people. In the name of our nation and our party we appeal to America's conscience to help find a solution not to a mere political crisis but the survival of the people, who are victims of the arrogant (?decision) of a mad Caesar, who, by blood and fire, wants to subdue the will of a people.

As a Nicaraguan and in the name of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party, I wish to express our gratitude to the democratic governments and peoples of America, and most especially to those of Venezuela and Costa Rica, who--without interfering in our internal affairs--have given their moral support to the liberating cause of our people. This has been enough reason for the dictator to (?level) insults and groundless charges against those who, with the accusing finger of the free men of this continent, today or tomorrow will take him to (?history's) tribunals to be tried and sentenced as one of the major [words indistinct] on this continent. Then and only then will our martyrs be able to rest in peace--by seeing Nicaragua free of tyrants, finding its own destiny within freedom and peace based on justice.

CHINANDEGA BUSINESSMEN END STRIKE ON 24 SEP

PA240310Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0016 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[Text] All businesses in Chinandega, including the [words indistinct] Alfonso Romero Callejas, have opened their doors in accordance with the full guarantee and vigilance provided by National Guard authorities. Businessmen informed Maj Guillermo Amaya that they were willing to end the unsuccessful strike called several weeks ago by the Chamber of Commerce, and today they opened their doors.

Those businessmen whose shops were burned or looted by terrorists several days ago are also trying to reestablish their businesses with the help of banking institutions.

EVIDENCE OF FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT CITED BEFORE OAS MISSION

PA240852Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0702 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[Text] The OAS mission was shown a large supply of captured weapons. Its first act in the Rivas departmental command area was to inspect, at Post Commander Gonzalo Everts') invitation, the large quantity of powerful weapons captured from the rebels who tried to invade the fatherland from Costa Rican territory on the morning of Sunday 17 September. The weapons captured by the brave National Guard troops and officers from the fleeing rebels filled a large room at the departmental command. The OAS delegates saw two powerful rocket launchers, bazookas, 50-caliber machineguns, sticks of dynamite, rifles, enough ammunition for 100 men, uniforms and boots taken from fallen rebels, and red and black scarves left by the rebels when they fled back to Costa Rican territory.

There was so much material captured by the brave National Guard that General (Everts) was prompted to say: They were carrying so much ammunition that they were leaving it behind and our troops were able to use it during the 9-hour continuous attack by the invaders. You can see for yourselves, Defense Minister Gen Guillermo Noguera said, that such a large amount of sophisticated weapons and ammunition could not have been acquired by a group of terrorists without the complicity of other governments.

The OAS delegates in Rivas were also shown Venezuelan-made boots worn by some of the invaders. One of the boots, marked "made in Venezuela," was bloodstained. It was probably left by one of the wounded invaders. The OAS delegates were also shown the impact of heavy caliber weapon fire on the doors of the electoral board building and the church.

One of the OAS delegates told newsmen present: This looks like the Dominican Republic during the communist-inspired rebel attack.

The delegates were served lunch before going to the Sapoa and Penas Blancas area. In Sapoa they inspected the command headquarters which was attacked using all sorts of weapons, dynamite, and rockets. A small detachment led by Sergeant Rodriguez repelled the attack. Despite the intensity of the attacks there were few casualties. We regret the death of customs guard Reyes, who lived nearby. Near the town of Sapoa the OAS delegates stopped at Las Pinas, where a Sandinist column that was repelled tried to blow up the bridge.

The proof that Costa Rican authorities supported the Sunday 17 September invasion is undeniable. The bullet holes and the angle of the mortar shots show clearly that they were fired from trenches in Costa Rican territory.

GOVERNMENT VOICES SATISFACTION WITH OAS RESOLUTION

PA241909Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1846 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[By Eduardo Romero]

[Excerpts] Managua, 24 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan Government declared today, Sunday, that it is satisfied with the resolution issued by the consultative meeting of the Organization of American States (OAS) held yesterday in Washington.

As a member of the inter-American system, Nicaragua has always abided by the rules and mechanisms governing all of the system's member states, and we are pleased with the action of the continental body in the face of the violent events we have experienced, Harri Bodan Shields, acting foreign affairs minister, told ACAN-EFE.

The resolution looks equitable to us and will help bring peace and harmony. We were somewhat surprised, however, by the fact that some countries have expressed dissatisfaction with the action taken by the meeting of foreign ministers and its consensus because it did not involve a condemnation of the Nicaraguan Government, which has defended itself from an armed attack, the foreign affairs official said. Bodan Shields added that his government is awaiting the report of the OAS ad hoc commission that last week visited the border between this country and Costa Rica, where it was able to verify the evidence submitted by both governments. The report is expected to be filed with the OAS Permanent Council at any moment. Although we are confident that we are right, the acting foreign minister said, we will accept its contents as a country that has turned compliance with international commitments into law.

In concluding, Bodan Shields deplored the interest shown by certain countries which call themselves democratic in harming Nicaragua's prestige, overlooking our reality and adopting a position which is contrary to the consensus of most members of the inter-American system.

FSLN FACTION ANNOUNCES BEGINNING OF GUERRILLA WARFARE

PA242032Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1942 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 24 Sep (LATIN)--According to reliable sources, a faction of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) today announced the beginning of guerrilla warfare against Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle's government.

Meanwhile, some 20 homemade bombs caused some material damage in Managua. The explosions were among a number of harassment activities aimed at the National Guard, whose members defeated a rebel movement launched during the past 2 weeks mostly in four important Nicaraguan cities. In southeast Managua several groups of youths set fire to a number of buses to set up a barricade in the street with the vehicles. The youths ran away before National Guard troops arrived.

For its part, the FSLN's proletarian faction, which led the revolution that rocked Nicaragua for 2 weeks, stated in a handout that it has decided to wage a war of attrition against the government. According to the handout, the guerrillas will carry out quick attacks against their objectives and will withdraw immediately. It adds that sector one, of the three that make up the FSLN, will not try to gain terrain; rather, it will provoke the government so it will carry out massive attacks, as was the case this month in the cities of Masaya, Leon, Chinandega and Esteli, strongholds of the rebel movement against Somoza Debayle. The government's recent military actions against those cities resulted in many casualties--mostly among the civilian population--and in generalized destruction as a result of the National Guard's bombing and artillery attacks.

The guerrilla movement's proletarian faction, whose activities take place mostly in the humble areas of the major Nicaraguan cities, indicated that any opposition member who attempts to reach an agreement with the government will be regarded as an enemy of the people and treated accordingly. The guerrilla document did not provide any more details on this subject.

The announcement that guerrilla warfare will be waged seemed to establish that it is highly unlikely that the FSLN will begin a large-scale uprising in this capital against Somoza Debayle, whose family has ruled this Central American country for over four decades. The rebels would have defense problems with Managua because, on one side, it borders the mountains and on the other with Managua Lake. Furthermore, downtown Managua is still in ruins after the earthquake that destroyed the city in 1972. Most of Managua's 600,000 residents have lived on the outskirts of this city since then.

Apparently, guerrilla strategists fear that any zone in which the rebels might gain control would be quickly isolated and bombed by Nicaraguan Air Force planes.

SANDINIST PRIEST CARDENAL DENIES DIVISION WITHIN FSLN

PA221719Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 21 Sep 78 pp 1, 27 PA

[Article by Carlos J. Nunez L.]

[Excerpts] There is no division within the forces of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]; on the contrary, the front is stronger than ever, Father Ernesto Cardenal reported from San Jose, thus denying an international press agency report which appeared in a Panamanian paper.

CRITICA phoned Cardenal. He was very calm in replying: "I have learned that it was published in Panama that I had said that the FSLN was about to split.

I do not know which international news agency disseminated that report but I want to forcefully deny it. My only feeling is that the news agency had bad intentions when it did so. I have not stated such a thing. I have not said it because, far from splitting, the FSLN is stronger than ever. The Sandinist front jointly with the people are very firm. They are increasingly stronger while Somoza's dictatorship is increasingly weaker.

In a telephone conversation with CRITICA from Managua, Sandinist sp[illegible] that FSLN casualties in the fighting had not been large. Consequently, their fighting capability and ability to withdraw strategically had been demonstrated.

COMMANDER CERO PREDICTS SOMOZA'S FALL WITHIN 10 DAYS

PA241647Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1554 GMT 24 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 24 Sep (AFP)--Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza's fall "will take place within the next 8 or 10 days," Sandinist guerrilla leader Commander Cero told local liberal morning newspaper EL NACIONAL, which today published an interview with Edén Pastora, also known as Commander Cero, is the Sandinist military chief who a few weeks ago led the attack on the National Palace in Managua and then went into exile in Panama.

According to the guerrilla leader, the participation of mercenaries from Vietnam, the United States and other countries, as well as the direction of Nicaragua's air force by high-ranking officers from West Point (a U.S. military academy) have morally undermined the troops and the high command of the Somozist National Guard. "The National Guard has been morally annihilated. It has no ideals to defend. It is hated and it is there only because it has no choice," Cero said.

According to the Sandinist leader, Somoza has problems controlling a fortune which Cero placed at $1 billion. Moreover, he has serious domestic and international problems. "Somoza must keep in touch, receiving instructions from his West Point classmates and his conservative allies in the U.S. Congress. Besides," Cero added, "he has marriage problems, he is a sex maniac and he has serious health problems."

He then indicated that Somoza is expected to fall within the next few days and that the Nicaraguan guerrillas have begun "a war of movement, mobility of columns, guerrilla warfare and simultaneous attacks." People in his country, he affirmed, are determined to achieve their freedom. Nobody and nothing will be able to stop them.

SANDINISTS ANNOUNCE FORMATION OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

PA221904Y San Jose Radio Monumental in Spanish 1834 GMT 22 Sep 78 PA

[Text] The formation of a triumvirate that would constitute the provisional government of Nicaragua was announced just a few minutes ago. The members of the government are Sergio Ramirez Mercado, Rafael Cordova Rivas and Alfonso Robelo Callejas. The announcement of the triumvirate is signed by [name indistinct] Casimiro Sotelo and the [illegible] democratic movement [words indistinct] in exile in Panama after being deported [words indistinct] the Costa Rican Government have already returned to Nicaragua. This was reported by the CENTRAL AMERICAN NEWS AGENCY.

Radio Ridicules Provisional Government

PA230522Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0011 GMT 23 Sep 78 PA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The so-called leaders of the extreme opposition living abroad are already dividing up among themselves the skin of a deer they have not yet killed.

A report datelined in San Jose, which was received a short while ago by the "National News" program, has caused amazement and laughter. The report will probably make Nicaraguans split their sides with laughter.

The report notes that a triumvirate has already been formed to govern Nicaragua and that the triumvirate is composed of none other than Sergio Ramirez Mercado of the Group of 12, who is only known in his home in Masatepe; Rafael Cordova Rivas, alias Tinajon [large earthen water jar]--an errand boy of the late Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, who has no brains and no charisma and who not even his wife follows [words indistinct]--and Alfonsito Robelo Callejas, the exploiting millionaire from the west who in less than 10 months has come to think of himself as the messiah of national politics.

The three new, but poisonous, cheap politicians make up the famous "national government." They lead tiny behind-the-desk political groups created overnight in the office of the editor of LA PRENSA.

"National News" comments: Most of the Nicaraguans do not know who these gentlemen are but in Costa Rica they are pretending that Nicaragua is attentively following them. The truth is that no Nicaraguan in his right mind would be seen in church with them since these are elements completely unknown to the great Nicaraguan masses. So, as a show of generosity on our part, we will let the Costa Ricans have them.

SANDINIST GUERRILLAS IN PANAMA RETURN TO NICARAGUA

PA222201Y San Jose Radio Monumental in Spanish 2135 GMT 22 Sep 78 PA

[Text] The Sandinist guerrillas who sought asylum in Panama after being deported last week by the Costa Rican Government have returned to Nicaragua, a military source said. The guerrillas include Spanish priest [word indistinct] Garcia Lacana, commander of the southern front [words indistinct] the Sandinist forces.

CUSTOMS SERVICES REPORTED NORMAL AT BORDERS

PA230815Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0730 GMT 23 Sep 78 PA

[Communique issued by Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic--date not given]

[Text] Customs services on the borders with Costa Rica and Honduras are operating normally, a press communique by the Economy, Industry and Commerce Ministry [as heard] has (?reported). The general customs bureau has informed (?the industrial sector) and especially freight and international transporters that customs services on the borders with Costa Rica and Honduras are operating normally. To adequately meet the demand, the offices are operating from 0800 to 1600 every day.

[Signed] Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic

HAVANA TV REPORTS CASTRO'S ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA

FL221320Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Sep 78 FL

[Text] We now present a report on Fidel's last activities during his visit to the fraternal African Republic of Ethiopia. The report was produced by a National Television news team composed of Angel Ferrer Sarmiento as reporter, Omar de la Cruz as cameraman and Rafael Cruza as video technician. [Film of an apparent military exercise and Castro and Mengistu presiding over a wreath laying ceremony. Camera cuts to Castro addressing an outdoor ceremony presumably as part of the exercise.]

[Castro] At this time I recall many things. I remember the circumstances which led to this struggle that was recently waged and the cowardly, unjustified and treacherous aggression. The sudden and treacherous aggression by the reactionary Somali Government created an extremely difficult situation on the eastern front. Imperialism thought the Ethiopian revolution was going to be liquidated and the Ethiopian people were going to be disintegrated. [More shots of military operation or maneuver.] However, our fatherland would not be what it is today without sacrifices. The world would not be advancing today on the path of socialism without the big sacrifices of the revolutionaries throughout history. [applause]

[Film of Castro addressing the Arab-African Solidarity Conference] [applause] It has now been 18 months since we first visited Ethiopia. At that time, we came to meet the leaders of this revolution in which, from a distance, we saw an example of the most profound social changes on the African Continent. It must be said that slavery existed in Ethiopia until the revolution. We have seen at the exposition in Addis Ababa the steel shackles used to tie down tens of thousands of citizens of this country. But we also came with a desire to achieve just political solutions that would prevent division and war among the peoples of the Horn of Africa and the shedding of their blood in internal struggles. We were not able to achieve this because a great fraud, whose name I shall not mention and it is not necessary to mention it, who claimed to fly the banner of socialism, thought that Ethiopia was militarily so weak that he could dismember it. At the same time, he was attempting to realize his expansionist dreams, against the wishes of the African countries, and, in that way, to serve imperialism to which he already had sold out. Eighteen months later we have returned to a victorious Ethiopia, as a result of the heroism of its fighting sons, which enjoys the support of international solidarity, as Comrade Mengistu said 2 days ago. Moreover, it is an already powerful Ethiopia. The popular parade Tuesday confirmed the enormous popular support for this revolutionary change. And yesterday's military parade tells us the degree of organization and discipline achieved by the militant and courageous fraternal people of Ethiopia. [applause]

[Film of a Cuban woman reading a statement, in progress--before Castro, Mengistu and other officials at an outdoor ceremony. She expresses the Cubans' willingness to do whatever Castro orders. Shots of Castro visiting a hospital, signing a visitor's book and a fly-by of jet aircraft. Further shots of Castro addressing the solidarity conference]

[Castro] We are infinitely more powerful than imperialism and its lackeys because we are the bearers of social progress and standardbearers of justice. History is on our side. Our scientific and just ideas are invincible. Let solidarity among peoples live eternally!

NATO EXERCISES AIMED AT DESTROYING DETENTE WITH USSR

FL231615Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Sep 78 FL

[Armando Lopez Junco commentary]

[Text] NATO this week began a series of military maneuvers in West Germany with the participation of 200,000 soldiers from North America, West Germany, and three other European countries. According to experts these exercises are the largest that NATO has ever undertaken and they are one of the more than 30 that this bellicose organization has carried out between the North Pole and the Mediterranean.

In March of this year military units from the FRG, United States, Canada, Great Britain and Holland carried out maneuvers in the western Atlantic under the name of (Safe Pass), and a second in the Mediterranean under the name of (Dogfish). In early April Great Britain, France and the United States also carried out military exercises off the coast of Ethiopia in an attempt to intensify the tensions generated by Somali aggression in the Ogaden.

In the same month maneuvers called (Matogrif) were carried out in Alberta, Canada, with the participation of combat aircraft and other North American air equipment. Two months later the Strait of Gilbraltar was the site of air and naval maneuvers--(Open Gate)--also within the framework of NATO.

At the beginning of this month, between 4 and 19 September, 40,000 men, 800 planes and 180 warships maneuvered in Norway, Central Europe and Turkey which, according to its sponsors, was to determine NATO's domination of the maritime routes which link North America with Western Europe. Nevertheless, the maneuvers over these weeks have acquired special notoriety because of the places where they were held: (Blue Danube), in which 46,000 soldiers took part near the Czechoslovak-West German border, and (Bold Tramp) with 62,000 NATO troops near the GDR border. This is in conjunction with a declaration made by the supreme commander of the NATO armed forces, Alexander Haig, citing an alleged Soviet threat as a justification for location of the provocative maneuvers. According to Haig the USSR is rapidly increasing its chemical warfare strength.

In fact two proposals explain the frequency, potential and location of the repeated military maneuvers carried out recently by NATO. The first is explained in light of declarations made by North American Secretary of Defense Harold Brown which were issued last year on the occasion of similar maneuvers. Brown said the United States would set the example for NATO, adding,"We are the major associate of the organization and we have taken the lead in the group by having our programs accepted." He was basically referring to the standardization of NATO weaponry which would allow Washington to control Western Europe's military industry, which at present gives the U.S. war industries profits 10 times greater than what they get as a result of sales in the United States.

The other proposal is clearly to hamper detente, disarmament and peace--which is being tenaciously fought for by the socialist community with the USSR at its head, but which Washington and its associates are persisting in seeing fail, driven by their own interests, economic as well as political and military, for world hegemony.

U.S. WARSHIP HELPING DEFEND NICARAGUAN COAST

FL232118Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 78 FL

[Text] An unidentified spokesman of the U.S. Government has admitted that a North American navy cruiser with radar-guided missiles is patrolling off the Pacific coast of Nicaragua on a reconnaissance mission. The information was issued in a U.S. Army news bulletin shortly after Nicaraguan exiles in Costa Rica yesterday denounced the presence of the ship, the Richmond K. Turner, in the area. The exiles stated that the North American warship appeared suddenly, as the popular insurrection increased in Nicaragua, evidently for the purpose of preventing possible landings by members of the Sandinists National Liberation Front.

MEDICAL TEAM RETURNS FROM GUYANA, ANOTHER SENT

FL211027Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 21 Sep 78 FL

[Text] The Cuban medical team which served in Guyana under the direction of pediatrician Eliseo Acosta has been replaced by another group headed by surgeon Oliverio Agramonte. The latter group is composed of 22 Cuban doctors who will serve in Georgetown and four interior communities of Guyana.

SUGAR MILL REPAIRS REPORTED BEHIND SCHEDULE

FL222349Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Sep 78 FL

[Text] The Sugar Ministry has reported that as of 14 September 90 percent of the national repair plan has been completed. This rate is low compared with the figure for the same date last year of 98 percent. The leaders in this important task are the provinces of Camaguey and Cienfuegos, with last places being held by Granma, Sancti Spiritus and Holguin, with completion rates below 79 percent.

The Sugar Ministry also reported that of the 148 mills that have repairs scheduled, only 47 have completed or surpassed what had been programed. The report states that the enterprises facing the greatest difficulties in completing their respective repair plans are Antonio Guiteras in Las Tunas with 34 percent completed, the Nicaragua mill in Holguin with 44 percent completed and Jesus Rabi of Matanzas with 57 percent completed.

RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH SUSLOV IN MOSCOW

FL222359Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Moscow--Mikhail Suslov, member of the CPSU Politburo, today met with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

TANZANIAN MINISTER VISITS PUBLIC HEALTH MINISTRY

FL232004Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1611 GMT 23 Sep 78 FL

[Text] A delegation from the United Republic of Tanzania, headed by Nicholas Kuhanga, minister of national education, this morning visited the Ministry of Public Health. The visitors were received by Dr Jose A. Gutierrez Muniz, minister. Also attending was Serafin Sanchez Rodriguez, minister of domestic trade, both alternate members of the PCC Central Committee.

The delegation will remain in Cuba until 1 October. Today it will visit a hospital center in Havana, the Construction Ministry and other official organizations.

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